

Today's Topics:

ARRL
CAT error in FT736 manual
Encryption, control, other random thoughts....
Junk in ham-radio
MANUFACTURER OF CDE ROTATORS ?
RST
The un-net on 10meters on Saturday (1600-1800Z)
Want to speak with ham radio operator ...

Date: 18 Dec 89 18:39:23 GMT

From: att!cbnewsm!mhuxo!rma@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (atkins, robert m)

Subject: ARRL

Message-ID: <7782@cbnewsm.ATT.COM>

In article <321@ssc.UUCP>, tad@ssc.UUCP (Tad Cook) writes:

>
>
> Despite what N8DGN said, QST has not "TOTALLY CUT all microwave coverage",
> just as they have not banned articles about CW, AMTOR. or mobile. They
> stopped carrying a COLUMN on this subject.
>
> Check out the 1990 ARRL Handbook. There is LOTS of microwave material,
> probably even out of proportion with current interest on the subject.
> The Handbook hardly qualifies as a "special interest publication", unless
> you consider amateur radio itself as "special interest".
>

Though QST has not eliminated microwave coverage it has probably eliminated most of the opportunities for reporting news and short technical items. There is no forum in QST for brief (1/2 page or so) items of technical interest to those engaged in microwave work. W3XO's column has been cut back to a page or so. Bill does not carry technical topics in his column and his main interests lie in the VHF world. With 6m opening up he is going to be hard pressed to fit all the 6m DX news into his column, never mind coverage of microwaves.

The handbook does indeed contain some microwave material, and I am glad to see it. The ARRL have had manuscripts in hand for about 3 or 4 years now to produce a microwave manual. Authors have been paid (in part) for work submitted but we have no sign of any publication. They say (and have said for two years now) it will be out RSN (Real Soon Now). It is taking on the characteristics of Vaporware (often talked about but never seen). If they are not careful the ARRL are going to have a lot of outdated information in hand and will spend more money and time in a never ending effort to catch up with technological advances. You have to move with some speed if you intend to publish information in such a field.

If the ARRL really want to encourage development of the microwave bands (which they say they do, and I want to believe them), then they must make microwave information available to the general membership, and that means exposure in QST. The ARRL is in a position to lead, but they have an inclination to follow. They can only be judged by their actions, not by their words. Look at a random issue of QST (Nov 89 and on). Are they actively supporting the development of the microwave bands? If not, then microwave experimenters may have to look elsewhere for such support.

Bob Atkins, KA1GT

Date: 18 Dec 89 20:41:59 GMT
From: unmvax!ariel!hydra.unm.edu!ollie@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (David Oliver Eisman)
Subject: CAT error in FT736 manual
Message-ID: <1151@ariel.unm.edu>

Ah! So that's the problem! I based an EE project around the CAT interface and I never got it to work! (Took a beating grade-wise, too.)

Please post the CORRECT pinouts for the port.

Well done, sir!

Ollie

Ollie Eisman - N6LTJ ollie@hydra.unm.edu
3505 Lafayette Rd. NE #3, Albuq, NM 87107
(505) 277-4845 or (505) 884-7848

Date: 18 Dec 89 22:59:27 GMT
From: shlump.nac.dec.com!koning.dec.com!koning@decwrl.dec.com (Paul Koning)
Subject: Encryption, control, other random thoughts....
Message-ID: <6988@shlump.nac.dec.com>

In article <8912130814.AA24406@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU>,
PERRYR@WABASH.BITNET (GWYFFD) writes:

> Encryption of cellular phones does not have to be complex.
Neither does
> it have to be unbreakable. Even a simple, easily breakable scheme would solve
> the problems of the ECPA. My reasoning is this. The intended purpose of the
> ECPA was to protect the privacy of cell-phone users. The ECPA chose to
do that

> by saying "you can't listen to them." If a encryption/digital coding system
> were to be used, however simple, to make the voice unintelligible to the
> "casual" listener, then the purpose of the EPCA will have been achieved. The
> person who takes the "extra step" to decode these transmissions is
easily seen
> as having "criminal intent".
>...

I disagree with that analysis. The ECPA says that you can listen to things that are "readily accessible to the general public". Obviously that's a matter of interpretation. One interpretation, which is the one I would use, is that anything that can be bought for less than a thousand or two, or that can be built in a reasonably equipped hamshack, is "generally accessible".

By that reasoning, a "coding system...however simple" would not necessarily be protected. If it takes more skill than you can get from reading "The Codebreakers" and "Cryptologia", or more money than it takes to buy an IC-781, then I would agree you might have a solution. Of course, it is trivial to do GOOD encryption, so why would anyone in his right mind want to do poor encryption?

paul, n1ld

Date: 18 Dec 89 22:02:09 GMT
From: brian@ucsd.edu (Brian Kantor)
Subject: Junk in ham-radio
Message-ID: <10512@ucsd.Edu>

In article <14975@eerie.acsu.Buffalo.EDU> bowen@cs.Buffalo.EDU (Devon Bowen) writes:
>It would probably be about as effective as rec.ham-radio.swl in getting the
>junk out of here.

if you are blessed with reading this as a Usenet newsgroup and have the 'rn' news reader, you can Kill any discussion you don't want to see by subject, and by author. For example, this is my Kill file.

/:.*for sale/:j
/Jim.Grubs/h:j

The first disposes of any article whose subject line include 'for sale', and the second flushes anything posted by or about Jim Grubs.

Selective reading is the answer. Trying to keep people from posting will never work.

- Brian

Date: 18 Dec 89 22:28:53 GMT
From: shlump.nac.dec.com!delni.enet.dec.com@decwrl.dec.com (Fred Goldstein k1io)
Subject: MANUFACTURER OF CDE ROTATORS ?
Message-ID: <6986@shlump.nac.dec.com>

In article <SO-MMW.89Dec14233953@stekt.oulu.fi>, so-mmw@stekt.oulu.fi (Marko Wirtanen) writes...

>Our club station OH8TA has a CDE rotator, but after a storm the
>teethwheel of the rotator unit is broken. Does anyone know the address
>of CDE manufacturer to have spare parts (Cornell Dublier Electronics).
>If someone knows spare parts supplier, please inform us !

CDE rotors were sold to Telex corp. a few years ago. I _think_ they're in Nebraska (where they took over the antenna operations of the bankrupt HyGain Corp. some years ago, along with that name). Telex is a fairly big conglomerate, so it's possible they still have a rotor plant in CDE's old hometown (Fuqua-Varina, North Carolina) but since my rotor is an old CDE too, somebody else will have to give the current address...

Date: 18 Dec 89 15:10:42 GMT
From: netcom!stratus!cloud9!jjmhome!cpoint!wolff@apple.com (Ken Wolff)
Subject: RST
Message-ID: <3169@cpoint.UUCP>

In article <1772@ul.tb.isc.rit.edu> cep4478@ul.tb.isc.rit.edu (C.E. Piggott) writes:
>In article <790@larry.sal.wisc.edu> sde@larry.sal.wisc.edu.UUCP (Scott Ellington) writes:

>
>>Speaking of call signs, shouldn't stations be required to give their own
>>call at least once per contact?
>
>YEAH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
>

I give the guy two QSO's to sign, then I either scream WHAT'S YOUR CALL or work him and scream WHAT'S YOUR CALL. I think everyone should do this to train the DX end to sign more often. BTW, we sign our call after every QSO in operations at my house.

- Ken, K1EA

Date: 18 Dec 89 15:05:24 GMT
From: netcom!stratus!cloud9!jjmhome!cpoint!wolff@apple.com (Ken Wolff)
Subject: The un-net on 10meters on Saturday (1600-1800Z)
Message-ID: <3168@cpoint.UUCP>

In article <8912151702.AA10646@decwrl.dec.com> reisert@victim.dec.com (Jim -- LTN1-2/H03 -- DTN 226-6905 15-Dec-1989 1203) writes:

>Stu, KC1F, spent a lot of his time on 10 meters in one of the recent DX
>contests *above* 28.800 (like around .888). He had very high QSO rates,
>probably because of the clear channel. You don't need to operate in QRM
>Alley to get a good score.

You can say that again. Stu had a peak hour of 235 qso's with europe on 28.887 including many european novices and technician class callsigns. A surprising number of stations told him "first USA contact ever". You will find that most of the world class operators spend very little time fighting over frequencies, and a lot of time high in the band avoiding QRM.

There is so much more activity from Europe this sunspot cycle that DX tests are turning into 48 hour sprints. A winning singler op in 1980 needed about 2,000 qso's. Today 3500 wins it. In our multi-single effort in the CW CQWW, we (K1AR, K1GQ, KC1F and K1EA) averaged over 100 per hour for the first 28 hours...

- Ken, K1EA

Date: 18 Dec 89 21:59:14 GMT
From: uther.camelot.cs.cmu.edu!bjm@pt.cs.cmu.edu (Bret Musser)
Subject: Want to speak with ham radio operator ...
Message-ID: <7346@pt.cs.cmu.edu>

about a little country called Micronesia.

[Before I continue, I apologize for blindly posting this to rec.ham-radio;
I don't read this group, so please don't follow up with posts.]

My brother is interested in visiting Micronesia and would like to have a contact before he goes (he's quite the exploring type -- already travelled most of Africa on his own). If you live in Northern NJ, he would appreciate a call if you know someone in Mirconesia, otherwise I will forward any email to him. He can be reached at (201) 647-1437.

Thanks in advance,

BJM.

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Bret J. Musser -- Carnegie-Mellon University -- bjm@cs.cmu.edu -- 412-268-8751
"If you can count your money, you don't have a billion dollars." (J.P. Getty)

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #1038
